

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

---

A NEW LYCOPODIUM FROM GUATEMALA.

BY WILLIAM R. MAXON.

By permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

---

Among a collection of Guatemalan plants received at the U. S. National Museum in 1902 there was a single specimen of Lycopodium which at that time we were unable to refer satisfactorily to any species known from middle America. While manifestly of close alliance to *L. aqualupianum* of the West Indies it seemed to offer notable differences, but in the absence of additional material we hesitated to describe it as new. During January of 1905 we were fortunate in visiting the precise locality, in Alta Verapaz, whence this specimen had been received; and although we were able to collect but a single additional plant this accords so perfectly with the former in the characters distinguishing it from *L. aqualupianum*, its nearest ally, that we have no doubt that they represent a distinct species:

***Lycopodium dichaeoides* sp. nov.**

Plant pendent, 25 cm. long, the type specimen four times dichotomously branched in the apical half at regular intervals: leaves bright green, sessile, divergent, in four ranks, those of the lower main stem 9 to 10 mm. long by 4 to 5 mm. wide, broadly subspatulate, the upper ones gradually smaller (6 to 7 mm. by 3 to 3.5 mm.), exactly oblong-oval, imbricate in drying; all obtuse or with a very slight apiculation, the midvein concealed throughout: strobiles very short (8 to 18 mm.), stout, simple or mostly once forked, conspicuously quadrangular; sporophylls 1.5 mm. long, rigid, achene-like,

broadly triangular-ovate, acuminate, deeply cucullate, carinate, the stout beak exceeding the sporangium about 0.5 mm.; sporangium orbicular-reniform, with a deep narrow sinus.

*Type* in the U. S. National Herbarium, No. 408,034, collected near the Finca Sepacuité, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala, March 28, 1902, by O. F. Cook and R. F. Griggs; collectors' number 251.

The second specimen referred to was collected by Robert Hay and the writer, on the trail between Sepacuité and Secanquim, at an altitude of about 1,000 meters, in Alta Verapaz, January 12, 1905, No. 3268 (U. S. National Herbarium, No. 473,235), from a tree trunk in the humid forest region.

*Lycopodium dichaeoides* may be distinguished from *L. aquabupianum* by its broader and more obtuse leaves, its concealed venation, and especially by its short stout strobiles which are closely aggregated in dense clusters and are from one-fifth to one-twentieth as long as those of *L. aquabupianum*. The sporophylls too are shorter, stouter and relatively much broader.